



NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Refer to: NC-RB-BS

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH
BETHESDA 14, MD.

December 10, 1951

AIR MAIL

Dr. J. Lederberg
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Doctor Lederberg:

It is regretted that this letter did not follow promptly the invitation to participate in the 2nd National Cancer Conference. I learned only recently to whom the formal invitations had been sent.

The committee responsible for the program on Genetics for the Conference is composed of Dr. C. C. Little, Dr. W. E. Heston, Dr. G. Gomori and the writer.

We hope to bring together during the last day of our meetings some of the foremost geneticists to discuss the genetical approach to the cancer problem. In the formal invitation you noted that one of the primary purposes for the Conference is "a teaching one". We adopted this suggestion for the meetings during the first two days, but for the last day we thought the meeting could be beneficial to both teachers and audience. We are looking forward to this meeting as the most interesting of our program, because of the high caliber of the speakers and the fundamental nature of the subject.

The subjects assigned were tentative and made as broad as possible to give the speaker a wide choice of topics.

We hope you will discuss your interesting work with bacteria and, if you care to do so, present your opinion as to how it may be related to the cancer problem. Dr. Sonneborn will present his work with Paramecia and has accepted the subject, "Genetic Mechanisms in Relation to Cancer". We hope to have Dr. Beadle discuss the subject

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of genetics in disease and Dr. Mc Clintock to present her work on cytogenetics. Contrary to the invitation, we will not have a discussor for these papers but have asked Dr. L. C. Dunn to summarize the meeting.

The Committee hopes you will be able to accept the invitation, because we are especially anxious to obtain the viewpoint of geneticists who are not interested primarily in the cancer problem.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H. B. Andervont". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

H. B. Andervont